



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 10, 2005

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: COUNCIL SUPPORTS PEARL HARBOR AS AN AIRCRAFT CARRIER HOMEPORT

Tomorrow, the Honolulu City Council is expected to pass Resolution 05-153, introduced by Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu), supporting Hawaii as a homeport of a Navy aircraft carrier and air wing.

"It is important to show the Pentagon that our local community supports locating a Navy aircraft carrier and air wing here," stated Councilmember Djou.

"Litigation over locating an Army Stryker Brigade and Makua Valley and the recent protest of the University of Hawaii's plan to become a Navy research center may call into doubt Hawaii's willingness to welcome a Navy aircraft carrier. Recent comments by local Guam officials might also portray Hawaii as less welcoming for a new carrier, even though Hawaii's congressional delegation is working hard to homeport a carrier here. My resolution seeks to put to rest any question that the local government in Honolulu would turn away the potential 4,200 new jobs and \$375 million annual investment in our community that can come with a Navy carrier and air wing," asserted Councilmember Djou.

Resolution 05-153 was co-sponsored by six members of the City Council and unanimously passed the Executive Matters Committee last week. The resolution is expected to easily win final approval tomorrow before the full City Council. Councilmember Djou, an Army Reserve captain, is the only elected official in Honolulu government with any military experience.

Economic Impact of an Aircraft Carrier in Hawaii

The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii estimates a carrier home ported in Honolulu would create 4,200 jobs and have a \$375 million annual economic impact.

Disputes Related to Military Investments in Hawaii

- October 1998:** Malama Makua files lawsuit to prevent the use of Makua Valley by the military. Training is halted from 1998 to 2001.
- October 2001:** Lawsuit resolved and the Army is allowed to train in Makua Valley using live ammunition while completing an environmental impact statement.
- July 2002:** Marines look at Waikane Valley to resume jungle training.
- November 2003:** Marines drop plans to use Waikane Valley for jungle training citing safety and community concerns.
- Dec. 2003** The Army and activist group Malama Makua reach a deal allowing the 25th Infantry Division to do live-fire training in Makua Valley.
- March 2004:** Malama Makua files federal lawsuit claiming Marine operations in Makua violated a 2001 federal court settlement with the Army.
- August 2004:** Earthjustice files a lawsuit in federal court regarding the Army's environmental impact statement on deployment of the Stryker Brigade.
- Sept. 2004** Earthjustice files motion to set aside a decision by U.S. District Judge Susan Mollway approving a stipulated land agreement in which the Army would pay Campbell Estate \$15.9 million for land in Kunia for use by the proposed Stryker Brigade.
- April 2005:** Chief U.S. District Judge rejects Earthjustice's complaint, allowing the Army to resume transforming the 25th Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade into a mobile Stryker Unit.
- May 2005** Students at the University of Hawaii protest the University of Hawaii's plan to enter a multimillion-dollar deal with the Navy to establish a classified research center on the Manoa campus. Four University Affiliated Research Centers now exist across the nation.
- May 2005:** Earthjustice filed appeals with the United States Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit, continuing their challenge to the U.S. Army's transformation in Hawai'i of the 2nd Brigade of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) into a brigade built around the "Stryker" armored vehicle.

